

A
NARRATIVE
OF THE
Popish PLOT
IN
IRELAND,

ORDERED BY THE
House of Commons
MARCH 25. 1681.
FOR THE
Murdering the PROTESTANTS There,
AND THE
Introducing of POPERY, and the Assistance they
depended upon from ENGLAND.

Discovered by me *James Carrol*, in the Year 1672.

WITH
An Account of my Sufferings for discovering the same.

LONDON,
Printed for *Richard Jancway*, in *Queens-Head-Ally*, in
Paragon-Row. 1681.

NARRATIVE

OF THE

POPISH PLOT

IN

IRELAND

MARCH 25: 1681.

ORDERED, By Vote of the House of Commons, That the Examination of *Mug-Harris* and others, taken by *Sir George Treby*, be Printed: Which accordingly this Informants Examination was taken before the said *Sir George Treby*, as in the Title Page appears.

Printed by the Author in the Year 1681.

WITH

An Account of my Sufferings for discovering the same.

LONDON,

Printed for Richard James, in Queen-Head Alley, in Paternoster-Row. 1681.

To the Right Honourable, *Arthur*, Earl of *Essex*,
Viscount *Malden*, and Baron *Capel*, of *Walden*,
sometime since Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*,
and lately one of His Majesties Privy-Council.

May it please you Lordship?

THAT total and unswerving diligence which your
Romanism on all occasions demonstrated to pre-
ferre the Protestant Religion, and prevent the
still advancing Plot of bloody Papists, has most
justly rendered all English Protestants your debtors, and fill'd
them with veneration for your name and person. Were all No-
ble men endued with a like prudence and integrity, the Po-
pish Plot had long since lost its blood, and England been se-
cured as with a Brazen Wall against all the malicious effects
of Rome.

The Trojans of old had not been destroyed, had they not trusted to Simon's flatteries, and admitted the fatal Horse, cramm'd with treacherous Greeks, within their Walls. Nor can England and Ireland become enslaved to the Pope, or any other Foreign power, unless some of our own (intrusted sub-ordinately with the Administration of affairs) clandestinely joyn with our open enemies. But where Thieves keep the keys, well may the house be rifled; and if Wolves though in Sheep-cloathing, be once made Shepherds, 'tis not difficult to imagine what will become of the Flock. Nor can that Nation but be esteem'd in a condition deplorable, and on the very precipice to wilful ruin, where 'tis a matter of greater hazard to discover Treasons, than to contrive them.

The following Narrative will partly shew the figure which potent Papists have made for some years past in the Kingdom of Ireland; and what influence they have had (like malevolent Planets) to blast and crush all that durst go about to destroy their disloyal Hellish designs. It will here appear, that

there hath been for many years a Treasonable Conspiracy carrying on in that Kingdom, and that the Popish Irish were in an expecting readiness to give the blow, and all over their Barriers of sea, but with greater barbarity. Only one thing there was that hindered, viz. the Dutch (a powerful Protestant State, very powerful till some late Jesuitical designs weakened them) must first be subdued.

So that it seems the project was general to root out and destroy all the Protestants throughout Europe; for this declaration to me was made in the year 1672, a time when England and France were so hopefully united, and vigorously engaged in a War with Holland, and the same judgment was made upon the be-forgotten Camp of Blackheath was done.

What Intervening accidents might make the Conspirators defer their rising in Arms, whether my making this discovery might not cause them to be more wary, although through some peoples kind countenance, it rendered them more the more disabled to have gone on, I determine not: it is enough that as I knew it my duty to divulge it, so although merely for the same I have now past through a Nine years Purgatory, and am thereby reduced to poverty, debt, and great extremity; yet were it still to do, I would discharge my conscience, though a Thousand Popish Lords were concern'd to be angry, and I were sure not only to lose my Livelyhood, but my Life likewise on that account.

At your Lordships feet I humbly lay these papers, and presume to shelter them into the world under the patronage of your truly Honourable Name; as well because your Lordship is so excellently qualified to judge of the truth of them by your great insight into the complexion of affairs and persons in Ireland (which had the honour of having your Lordship for some (too short) time her Lord Lieutenant) as in regard of my particular obligation, that the same might remain as a publick testimony of my gratitude.

Your Lordships

Most Humble and Faithful Servant,

James Corbett

The Information of Mr. James Carroll, Junior, of the City of Dublin, in the Kingdom of Ireland, Spanish Leather-dresser; and also a Freeman of the City of London, an English Protestant, born at New Castle upon Tyne, the first Discoverer of the Horrible and Bloody Irish Plot against the Protestants of that Kingdom, upon the 12th day of April, Anno 1672. Taken upon Oath before the Right Worshipful Sir George Treby, Knight, Recorder of this Honourable City of London, by His Majesties Order in Council.

THIS Informant saith, That he, together with James Carroll, the elder, this Informants Father, having occasion to travel in the said Kingdom of Ireland, to buy Wool, Skins, and other Commodities relating to the Trade or Calling of this Informant, did on the said 12th day of April, Anno Dom. 1672. arrive at Portumna, in the County of Galway, a Town belonging to William Burke, Earl of Clanrickard, and took up their Lodgings at the house of one Thomas Allen, an Inn-keeper, then living at the Sign of the Black-Spied Eagle, in the said Town of Portumna, which said Allen then was a Tenant or Steward unto the said Earl of Clanrickard; and this Informant saith, that the said Thomas Allen then and there falling into discourse with this Informant and his said Father, supposing them to be Irish, this Informants said Father speaking the Irish Tongue, did enquire of them what News there was abroad: whereunto they answered, that they had been travelling up and down the Country, but heard no strange News; whereupon he said to this Informant and his said Father in English, as followeth: If (said he) we have news, that the Dutch are beaten, whom we are in great hopes utterly to destroy, for that's the light we must put out, we have so good assistance not only from France but England too; for there's one, we are sure will stick by us; then my Lord Clanrickard will presently sound a Trumpet, and I will go along with him, and three or four score more of this Town, well horsed and armed, and every man five pound in his Pocket; and I hope I shall kill an hundred of the Protestants, Anabaptists, Independents, and such like Pharatick Rogues, before I am killed; for I expect a quarter Masters place in the Troop that is here to be raised, and I will have some of them upon the point of my Sword before the last of June: and as for those that are here in this Country, we will soon cut them off, they shall have no

help to come from the other side of the Brook (meaning England) for we have taken care to prevent that, by having an Embargo put on Shipping, that none can come from thence to help them; so that we shall be twelve to one, and leave them neither root nor branch, nor spare them as in their former Rising. Whereunto this Informant and his said Father answered, and said, This is strange news indeed; whereupon the said Allen askt this Informant's said Father (thus) Why did not you hear what was spoken at Mals yesterday, being *Easter-Munday*? And the said *Thomas Allen* still continued to declare to the effect aforesaid; Furthermore cursing the *English* in a most horrid manner, declaring their wicked and bloody designs against them. And this Informant saith, that upon his return from *Portumna* to *Dublin*, aforesaid, through his duty and allegiance to his Majesty, and natural affection to his Country-men, the Protestants of that Kingdom, resolving to reveal and make known such the Treasonable and dangerous words of the said *Thomas Allen*, did immediately repair to one *Dr. Topham*, a Master in *Chancery*, before whom the Informant did upon his corporal Oath declare and make the same known: and saith, that presently after this Informant was sent for, and did accordingly appear before the Lord *Berkley*, his Majesties then Lord Lieutenant, and the Council at *Dublin*, and by them examined touching the Premises, which this Informant again confirmed upon three several Examinations before the said Lord Lieutenant and Council: and after that this Informant was sent for before, Sir *Robert Booth*, Lord Chief Justice of the Common-Pleas at *Dublin*, and by him engaged to prosecute the said *Thomas Allen* for the said Treasonable and dangerous words. And this Informant saith, that soon after this Examination aforesaid, a certain *English* man, who, as this Informant was informed, had been an old Soldier, or Officer, and lived in, or about the County of *Wicklow* in *Ireland*, whose name this Informant hath forgot, came also before the said Lord Lieutenant and Council, and there upon his corporal Oath declared, that there were some certain *Irish* men about the time of the said *Thomas Allen*'s Speeches, offered him a Commission to raise men, and also to empower him to give Commissions for that purpose to whom he should think fit; and advised him to get all the assistance he could, and told him, he should be supplied with money to carry on the business, and they should be in a readiness within twelve days, then next following; for that they expected about that time to rise, and be up in Arms against the Protestants in *Ireland*; and saith, that about three Weeks or a Month after, all the said *English*-mans Stock, Cattle, Goods and Substance were taken from him, whereby he was ruined and quite undone: And although the said *English*-man Petitioned the Lord Lieutenant and Council for relief, in such his distressed condition, yet could he not obtain any relief, as the said *English*-man declared, and told this Informant, who since that time could never see him, or hear any thing of him. And this Informant saith, that being, as aforesaid, engaged by the said Lord Chief Justice *Booth*, to prosecute the said *Thomas Allen*, a Pursivant was accordingly sent for the said *Thomas Allen*, but he could not be found; and immediately after this Informant saw the said *Allen* and the Earl of *Clanrickard* together in the said Earls Coach, come into *Dublin*, where the said Earl appeared with the said *Allen*, as his assistant;

stant; and the said *Allen*, together with this Informant, presently appeared before the said Lord Lieutenant and Council, and by them was examined concerning the said Treasonable words and Speeches so by the said *Allen* spoken, as aforesaid: all which the said *Allen* denied; and also denied, that this Informant, or his said Father was, or were at the house of him the said *Thomas Allen*, or in *Portumna*, at the time aforesaid: whereupon this Informant being again examined, in the said *Thomas Allen's* presence, did again confirm the truth of the Premises, and then also proved, that this Informant and his said Father, were the 12th of *April* in the house of the said *Thomas Allen*, in the Town of *Portumna*. And this Informant the better remembers it to be on the day and year aforesaid, for that he had a Bond which was then and there sealed and delivered to this Informants use, where *Simon Allen* a Brother to the said *Thomas Allen*, had set his name as a witness. And upon this Informants then producing the said Bond, and shewing the same to the said *Thomas Allen*, he could not deny the hand-writing of his said brother. Thereupon the said Lord Lieutenant and Council declaring they were very well satisfied of the truth of this Informants evidence, did press and importune the said *Thomas Allen* to make an open and ingenuous confession of the whole truth of the matter; telling him if he did not confess, it would be worse for him. But the said *Thomas Allen* notwithstanding obstinately persisting in his said denial, was by the Lord Lieutenant and Council ordered to stand committed close prisoner without Bail or Mainprize, and so commanded the Gaoler to take him away. Nevertheless the said *Thomas Allen* was the very same day, by the prevalence, interest, means and procurement of the said Earl of *Clarrickard*, or otherwise, set at liberty upon his giving his own security of One hundred pounds penalty, personally to appear within ten days next after notice should be given for that purpose, to be left at the house of one *Thomas Lowe*, situate in *St. Thomas Street* in *Dublin*, before the Lord Lieutenant and Council, and not to depart without license.

And this Informant farther saith, That some short time after this Informant and his said Father having further occasion to travel in the said County of *Galway*, they came to the River *Shannon*, where the wind being very high, it was late before the Ferry-boat could pass them over to the said Town of *Portumna*, where they arrived on a *Saturday* in the evening; but finding the inhabitants there to gaze upon them, and draw tumultuously together, conceived it altogether unsafe to lodge there; and therefore altho' they were both very wet and weary, did rather chuse to travel four miles further, to a lone house on the road to *Loughrea*, and six miles short of *Loughrea*, whither they intended that night to have gone, had they not been prevented by the delay of the Ferry-boat, as aforesaid; and the next morning, being *Sunday*, about eleven a clock in the morning, they came to *Loughrea*, where they rested that day and night; and yet at or by the instigation of the said Earl of *Clarrickard*, and *Thomas Allen*, or others his Accomplishers, the Constable of *Loughrea* and several other persons with him, came very early

early the next morning, being *Monday*, to the house where this Informant and his said Father lodged that night in *Loughrea* aforesaid, and there very rudely throwing open the Chamber-dore, frightened them out of their sleep, and there by virtue of a Warrant from one *James Donnellan*, then a Steward also to the said Earl of *Clanrickard*, a Papist, but yet a Justice of the Peace living near *Loughrea*, seized this Informant and his said Father upon a pretence that they travelled on the Sabbath or Lords-day, whereas several of the Inhabitants there travelled and came all that Sabbath-day into *Loughrea*, with their Carts and Horses Loaden from *Athlone Faire*, Twenty Miles distant from *Loughrea*, and yet none of these inhabitants were any ways troubled or molested for their so travelling on the same Sabbath-day. And the said Constable and those persons with him, then also seized and took away a Case of Pistols, and two Swords belonging to this Informant and his said Father, then lying on the Table in their Chambers, and said this Informant and his Father intended to kill some body with the Pistols and Swords, whereas in truth they only carried the same about with them for their own defence. And this Informant nor his said Father could never get their said Pistols or Swords restored again to them. And the said Constable, and those other persons then with him, as aforesaid, having seized and forced this Informant and his said Father out of their bed, did also then force them to travel six miles to one *Dean Peirse*, a Justice of the Peace, and Minister, living at that distance from *Loughrea*; and the said Justice of the Peace, or Minister, reproving this Informant and his said Father for such their travelling on the said Sabbath-day, told them withall, That he had heard they had given in evidence against the said Earl of *Clanrickard*; and thereupon committed this Informant and his said Father to the Gaol at *Loughrea* aforesaid, whither he commanded the Constable to carry them, and gave him private directions, as this Informant knows, because he overheard him, that *no bail should be taken* for them, or either of them, altho' he the said Justice or Minister just before pretended to this Informant and his said Father, that they might give bail. And this Informant further saith, That he and his said Father being accordingly carried by the said Constable and those with him, into the said Gaol in *Loughrea*, were by the instigation, prevalency, and directions as aforesaid, there kept close prisoners for about five or six days, and by the Keepers of the said Gaol denied and not suffered to have any bed to lye on, but only the ground in the said Gaol wherein they were so kept; nor any clothes to cover them, save only their own wearing clothes on their backs: and altho' they earnestly requested to have some sheepskins brought to cover them from the cold, yet could they not obtain leave to have the same done: neither would the said Keeper, having receiv'd such directions as aforesaid, suffer any Friend to come into or near the said Gaol or Prison, to speak with, or do any thing for this Informant or his said Father, or to bring them any relief, or suffer them to have any victuals or drink; neither had they any whilst they continued there, but what they could privately get of the poor prisoners in the same prison. And altho' this Informant just as he and his said Father were so brought to, and going into the said Gaol, did employ an

English man, a person living in *Loughbrea*, and gave him money, and lent him this Informant's Horse; to convey or carry a Letter from this Informant and his said Father to *Galloway*, but Fourteen Miles from *Loughbrea*: yet within an hour or two after, fearing the Earl of *Clanrickard's* displeasure, being (as this Informant hath great cause to believe) charged by some or other of the Earls Agents or Tenants there, at his Perill, as he told me, not to convey or carry the said Letter, did return this Informant his money again, and said, that the said Constable, *Christopher Poor* by name, and a Popish Constable in *Loughbrea*, told him, the said person, that if he should carry the said Letter, or any other ways appear to do any thing for this Informant or his said Father, that the said Earl of *Clanrickard* would ruin him and his Family: And the better to colour the said malicious and injurious prosecutions against this Informant and his said Father, several persons by such instigations and prevalencies as aforesaid, were procured to report, that this Informant's said Father had a design to burn the said Town of *Loughbrea*; and that besides the said Information against this Informant and his said Father for such their travelling, as aforesaid, on the Sabbath-day, there would be seven or eight other Indictments preferred and prosecuted against them, at the then *Galloway* Assizes: and in such Condition this Informant and his said Father lay in the said Goal or Prison in *Loughbrea*, aforesaid, for some considerable time; and perhaps might there have layn (if not destroy'd or famish't before by their cruel usages) had not this Informant, through a Window of the said Prison, accidentally seeing a stranger riding by, conveyed to him a Letter, directed to some friends of theirs, then living in *Galloway*, where, by such means, the said Letter was received, and understanding thereby such the sad Condition of this Informant and his said Father, their said friends did presently make application to the Judges of the Assizes, then sitting there at *Galloway*, and of them obtained an Order for the removal of this Informant and his said Father thither. And they being by the said Keepers of the said Goal thereupon brought to *Galloway* at night late, were put in the vilest Prison in that Town, amongst the condemned Malefactors, and without any accommodation at all; and the next morning they were brought before the said Judges, Baron *Hew* and Judge *Cusack* in the Court of Assizes, they then sitting, where an Indictment was then preferred and read against this Informant and his said Father, for such their travelling, as aforesaid, on the Sabbath-day; and another malicious Indictment was then also preferred there, and read against this Informant's said Father, whereby it was charged, That he is before (which was most falsely and maliciously reported) had a design to burn *Loughbrea*. And to the first of the said Indictments this Informant and his said Father upon the Courts demand submitted; and to the last, this Informant's said Father put in his Traverse; and altho' no prosecutors or witnesses then appeared against either of them; yet were they ordered to give One thousand pounds Security not to depart the said Town of *Galloway* without leave of the said Court: and some time

after, on the last day of the said Assizes, they were ordered by the said Court to give, and accordingly did give *new Security* to appear there again at the next Assizes, and to keep the peace, and be of *good behaviour* in the mean time; and having given security, and the said Assizes being ended, they then repaired to *Dublin*, which is about *one hundred miles* from *Galloway*; and from thence were forced to repair back again at the next Assizes accordingly to *Galloway*, to their great trouble and charge; and when they came there, none appeared to maintain the aforesaid Indictment. But as if all these malicious and most vexatious proceedings had been nothing, this Informant was again arrested the fourth of *November* following, in an Action of *Ten thousand pounds* in the name of *William Earl of Clanrickard*, and thereupon being hurried to prison, within four days procuring Bail, he was again detained on another Action in the said Earls name, of *Twenty thousand pounds*, bearing date the eighth *ditto*; and being ready to come forth again, was a *third time* detained at the said Earls suit in an Action of *Thirty thousand pounds*, in all amounting to *Sixty thousand pounds*, laid upon him on purpose to ruine him utterly. And further saith, That within fourteen days, or thereabouts, after, the Informant procured a *Habeas Corpus* to be brought to the *Common-Pleas Bar*, where tendering Bail to all the said Actions, the said Earls Council moved for time to consider of the sufficiency of the said Bail; which was granted them till the next day, when and where this Informant was again brought; and then the said Earls standing Council told the Judges, That they had no directions or instructions to prosecute this Informant from the said Earl; and that they conceived some persons had prosecuted him out of malice only to curryfavour with the said Earl; and therefore desired he might be discharged of the foresaid Actions, and accordingly he was discharged paying his Fees; but then left without all remedy to recover his charges and damages; the said Earl being at the said Bar, declared to be *no prosecutor*, tho' the said Actions were in his name, and carried on by secret order (as this Deponent has all the reason in the world to think, and does most assuredly believe). But all these vexations sufficed not, but being fully resolved on the destruction of this Informant, and a discouragement to others; For his innocence, though zealous in performance of his duty in revealing the said Treasonable words, he was again shortly after arrested by a Writ of *Two thousand pounds* out of the *Kings Bench*, at the suit of the said Earl of *Clanrickard*; to which he gave bail; and again in some short time was arrested at the suit of the said Earl, in another Action of *Two thousand pounds* out of the said Court, to which he also gave bail: and being bound, as aforesaid to appear at *Galloway Assizes*, this Informant and his said Father did accordingly attend, and were there cleared, as appears by the the following Discharge.

At

At a General Goal-Delivery, held at St. FRANCIS ABBY, near GALLOWAY, March the 4th, 1672.

Memorandum, That at the said Assizes, James Carrol Seignior, and James Carrol Junior, appeared upon their Recognizances, being bound over from the last Assizes; and nothing now appearing against them, were discharged by Proclamation. Dated ut supra,

Per Jo. Caroll, D. Car. Cor.

The first of the last mentioned Actions being laid for two thousand Pounds damages, was dismiss'd for Non-Prosecution: On the second Action of two thousand Pounds was declared, that this Informant had scandalized the said Earl to the damage of the foresaid Action; and though the said Actions were taken out of the Kings Bench, Dublin, and the Declaration fyled there; yet the said Earls Council moved the Court, that the *Venire* might be laid in Galloway, and the Action tryed there: Whereupon this Informant petitioned the Court that the *Venire* might abide at Dublin, and be tryed there; setting forth, that Dublin was the place where he had made discovery of the Treasonable Words spoken by Allen, on which the said William Earl of Clanrickard's Action was pretendedly grounded; and that his Witnesses to prove the said Allen had spoke those words, were in Dublin: That Galloway was a place where the said Earl was very Potent, and above an hundred miles distant from this Informants and his Witnesses Habitations, which Journey would be to their great costs and charges, besides the imminent danger of their Lives in going thither, or coming from thence, by those rude and exasperated persons that live on the way: That what he had done was in discharge of his duty to his Majesty, and preservation of the Protestatns, and wherein he had done the said Earl no wrong. But if the said Earl were slandered, or was any wise scandalized, it was by the said Thomas Allen his Tenant or Steward, against whom in Right and Justice he ought to have taken his Remedy (if he had thought it safe so to do) and not against this Informant: Yet (notwithstanding) several Petitions, and some Affidavits taken in Court, and also pleaded by this Informants Council, Sir Richard Reynolds, and Counsellor Whitfield, to have the Tryal kept at the

the *Kings Bench Bar, Dublin*, they were still put off and denied by Justice *Oliver Jones*, an Irish Man, a reputed Papist; and there being no other Judge on the Bench, He in a great passion adjourned the said Court from Ten of the Clock till the next day, and continued the Adjournments for two or three days together, merely upon the motions of this Informants Council, to have the said Tryal held at the Bar, being the proper place; but the said Judge still denying it, answered, he had resolved to the contrary; and thereupon this Informants said Council told him, they had lost the Judges favour for that Term, for being so much concerned for the Informant, and likewise assured this Informant it was contrary to Law and Justice, and common practice, for the Judge so to do. Then this Informant was forced with his said Father his Witness, to Travel to *Galloway* to attend the said Tryal there; where though he was there three days before the day of Tryal, yet could he not get any Council for money to plead his cause. Then at the appointed time, Petitioning the Judges to assign him Council, and allow one day to advise with them; Justice *Jones* would allow no time. The Earls Council urged there were three Councils unretained by the said Earl, whom this Informant did retain, giving them their fee, eighteen Shillings each man, with the Breviates of his Cause, which were drawn by Counsellor *Whitfield*, the Informant being forced to be content with the said Council, who were all Irish Papists. The only matter and issue for this Informant was, to prove that the said *Thomas Allen* had spoken the said Treasonable Words, which was so well proved by his said Father his Witness, that one of his Council told the Court the Evidence was sufficient, but was over-ruled by the said Justice *Jones*, saying, That that was not the case now; and beckoning with his hand to this Informants Council when he spoke the words; so that none of the Informants Council spoke a word more on his behalf at that time. But Judge *Povey* declared to the Court, that it was sufficiently proved that *Thomas Allen* had spoke those words; however the Jury being some of them outlaw'd, and most of them Papists, and some of them Tenants, others Bayliffs, and all of them some way or other related to the said Earl, who was then present at the said Tryal, brought in a Verdict against this Informant for two thousand pounds Damages, and six pence cost; upon which the said Earl hath since in *Dublin* obtained a Judgment against this Informant for the same to his utter Ruine, the said Earl being a dangerous Papist, of great power in *Ireland*, and as this Informant is credibly informed, he then was and still is Admiral of the Irish Seas belonging to *Galloway* under the Duke of *York*, and it was then reported he was to be Governor of *Galloway*, in the Year 1672.

And this Informant further saith, That at *Galloway* the same day after the Tryal was over, he was endeavoured withal to be perswaded to submit himself to the said Earl, and to declare what he had done was at the instigation of some others, as being his only way to be safe; and that the Earl would then pay him his Charges, and discharge him of the said Verdict, which he only obtained for his credit: And it was then

then also added, by *John Carrol Clerk of the Crown*, that otherwise Let this Informant return to *Dublin* which way he would, there were those Related to the said Earl would wait to do his Business for him. Whereunto this Informant replied, that he never was put on by any one; That what he had declared was no more than what the said *Thomas Allen* had said; and that if it was to do again, he would do it; looking upon it a duty incumbent upon every good Subject, and that he would take the best care of himself he could in returning home, trusting in God to preserve him from such as sought unjustly to do him hurt: And to that purpose finding himself often threatened, and many times abused in *Galloway*, he was forced, together with his said Father, to get thence by Night, and forsake the common Road; and to go all the by ways they could to secure their lives; they having since been credibly informed, that they were pursued by seven Persons near sixty miles, to have done them mischief; and lately this Informant was credibly informed, that there was a Life-Guard-man hired to kill him upon the Earl of *Clanrickard's* account at *Dublin*.

Furthermore, In *November*, 1678. the said Earl of *Clanrickard* understanding that this Informant and his said Father had made a Relation of their great sufferings by the said Earls unjust Prosecutions, and the great charges and damages they had thereby sustained, he the said Earl on the thirtieth of *November*, took out Writs of one thousand pounds out of the Kings Bench against this Informant and his said Father, and by virtue of the same Arrested his said Ancient Father, and there most inhumanely abused him, and laid him in Prison from the Thirtieth of *November* till the expiration of two Terms, before an appearance could be allowed of, in the Kings Bench; and also another Writ out of the Common Pleas of one thousand pounds laid upon this Informant's said Father, which occasioned his Imprisonment until the twelfth of *May* following, to the great charge of this Informant.

And this Informant further saith, That one *Burke*, a Steward or Agent unto the said Earl of *Clanrickard*, declared to his face, that he would be the death of this Informant if he could conveniently light on him; and to accomplish in part his bloody Resolutions, did so severely strike this Informant's Wife, who was the Daughter of Captain *Thomas Ellis*, Merchant of the City of *Bristol*, that from that time she lay in a languishing Condition until she dyed, being the second of *November*, 1680. it being in the house of this Informant that he committed the said Assault, he the said *Burke* bringing Bayliff and Sub-Sheriffs Officers, eight in number, to assist him; and this Informant by great Providence escaped from them, and since for several months they have been seen to watch for him, insomuch that he durst not appear or converse with any, fearing his Life or perpetual Imprisonment by the said Earl or his Confederates, until he made his escape for *England* to make known his grievances.

Two years since also this Informant was set upon by several Papists near the City of *Dublin*, and received Wounds, but narrowly escaped his life by Gods Providence; and the said Earl for further vexation

hath lately fyled a large Declaration in the Common-Pleas, stuf with many false suggestions, containing near three Skins of Parchment, it being an Action of Slander, grounded upon the Statute made at *Gloucester*, in the second year of *Richard* the Second, and laid to this Informant's said Father's charge, damages to the value of One thousand pounds, to which the Defendant pleaded the General Plea *Not Guilty*, and then there was no further prosecution, as by the Records may plainly appear.

Whereupon this Informant and his said Father presented several Petitions unto the Lord Lieutenant and Council at *Dublin* about *September* last, representing and setting forth their damages, and the vexatious Suits brought against them for many years passed, and prayed that the before mentioned *Thomas Allen* might be sent for, and the Earl of *Clanrickard* living in *Dublin*, and that we might be ordered to appear and prove these Treasonable Words which the said *Allen* spoke, and have satisfaction; and thereupon we might be dismissed from those unjust Prosecutions from the said Earl of *Clanrickard*; but nothing would be done, save leaving them to the *Common Law*; whereas this Informant and his Father being so ruined as aforesaid, are not now in a capacity to prosecute or defend themselves against the said Earl of *Clanrickard*, he being a near Relation to the Duke of *Ormond*.

About the twelfth day of *May*, 1680. one Mr. *Robert Downing* came to this Informant's House, and shewed him a Paper written, which was as he said by the Earl's Order (*viz.*) That if this Informant and his said Father would give under their Hands and Seals, that they do verily believe in their Consciences, that the said Earl of *Clanrickard* was not any ways guilty of the Things spoken of him in the Affidavit against the said *Thomas Allen*, that then the said Earl would forbear all further proceedings, and discharge them from all things past, by sealing mutual Releases to each other. But this Informant refusing to do, declared he had good grounds to believe to the contrary, and did hope in time to have satisfaction for the great damages he sustained by the said Earl of *Clanrickard*.

One *Robert Potts* sworn before two Justices of the Peace, the fourteenth of *April*, 1679. and declared he heard one *John Venge*, a Gunsmith of *Portumna*, say, That he had fixed up for the said Earl five hundred Fire-Arms about five or six years since, and that he had a great many more to fix up for the said Earl; and that the said Gunsmith and his men with Forge and Tools did work in the Castle of *Portumna*, belonging to the said Earl. This Informant Petitioned the Lord Lieutenant and Council for a Copy of *Potts* Affidavit, and some other Copies he thought necessary, but the Clerk of the Council said my Lord would not grant them.

And this Informant further saith, that in the Year 1678. there were Proclamations to disarm Papists in *Ireland*, and banish Popish Priests, Jesuits, and Fryars, &c. And this Informant hath been credibly informed, that several Papists, &c. having not obeyed the said Proclamations have been seized on, but producing Licenses from the Lord

Lord Lieutenant have been discharged and set at liberty; inſomuch, that the ſaid City and Country *swarms with them*, and that there are ſeveral *Iriſh* and *French* Officers lately come into *Ireland*, *Papiſts*, and by the names of *Colonels*, *Majors*, *Captains*, &c. Nor were any Officers permitted to ſearch the ſaid Earls Caſtle, or ſeize any Arms to him belonging, being prohibited ſo to do, as follows.

By the Lord Lieutenant-General; and General
Governour of *Ireland*.

Signed Ormond.

FOR Reaſons beſt known to us, We think fit hereby expreſly to *command* require all his Majeſties Officers and Souldiers whatſoever, whom it may concern, to forbear ſearching for, or ſeizing upon any of the Arms belonging to our very good Lord, William Earl of Clanrickard. Given under our hand this 26th of Novemb. 1678.

William Ellia.

And this Informant further ſaith, That by the unjuſt Proſecutions which followed his honeſt diſcovery, he is damniſhed above 1000 *l. ſter.* beſides the loſs of his Trade, and was forced to ſell an *Eſtate* of 100. *l. per annum* in defending his innocency, and preſerving his life and liberty, and paying his juſt Debts, contracted by the continual proſecutions of the ſaid Earl or his Agents; whereby this Informant and his ſaid Evidence are utterly ruined by the never to be forgotten unkindneſs, or rather apparent *injuſtice* of the ſaid Juſtice Oliver Jones, in ſuffering the ſaid *Venue* to be altered, as aforeſaid; and that now this Informant is ſo much impoveriſhed, being forced to leave his Trade and habitation, that he hath not wherewithal to help himſelf, neither doth he know any place of ſafety, but has incurred the diſpleaſure of many; and being in great danger, fears he ſhall be deſtroyed, as others have been, for declaring the truth; all which, the before-mentioned premiſes, this Informant hath received, and endured by; and through the means of the ſaid unjuſt and notorious proſecutions of the Earl of *Clanrickard*, theſe Eight years paſt, which hath created great diſcouragements to many, and ſtifles diſcoveries of Treasons, coming to their mind and knowledg ſince the year 1672.

Jurat, 7th die February, Anno Dom. 1680,

Coram me, Geo. Treby, Recorder.

Thi,

and this Informant further saith, that what he did in discovering of the said Treasonable words, was out of love of his duty to God, and for the preservation of the Protestants there; nor could he then in the least imagine, by such a proceeding, to be unjustly moved, as appears by the Depositions aforesaid.

Another Inducement of his discovery, was the bloody Massacre that broke forth there in the year 1641. which will never be forgotten by the Protestants, nor ever be repented of by the Papists: And that notwithstanding the present apprehensions of great danger from the discovered Plot, there are in, and about the City and Suburbs of Dublin divers Mass houses, publicly frequented by Hundreds and Thousands, connived, at although several Proclamations have been issued out against them.

Again, Had not this Information been fully and clearly proved to the Lord Lieutenant and Council, he this Informant would certainly have been by them severely and deservedly punished.

But for all this the Protestants, and true English men consider the calamities that this Informant and his Father have suffered in making the said discovery, and the necessity he is reduced to for so doing: for all the proceedings have been (as you may observe) managed against him with that cruelty and injustice, the Earl of Clarendon shewing his implacable wrath and malicious hatred to all English Protestants, as he hath in the former Rebellion given sufficient demonstrations of his bloody-mindedness towards the English Protestants in all parts: when old *William Earl of Clarendon* living in the beginning of the Rebellion in *Portsmouth*, and sometimes in *London*, did endeavour to give some of the English Protestants, and commanded his Nephew, the present Earl, so to do; but the new Earl refused to obey his Uncle, old *William*, but went to the Army of the Rebels, and instead of being kind to the Protestants and English, he most cruelly handled them in all parts whereforever he found them, and was always found to be most cruel and unmerciful in the time of the Massacre and Rebellion, and so hath continued ever since upon all occasions, as you may see in his late passages concerning this Informant. Many other cruel and unjust actions in that County hath he done to many of the English since he was restored; especially to a Gentleman of Quality; and a Justice of peace in that County, because he lived in an Abby which stood upon Land that he bought with his money, and refused to give it to Popish Clergy and Fryars: they made the Earl to begin a Suit against the said Gentleman, to his ruin, by hiring Witnesses to testify for the Earl: the said Judge *Jones* was the Judge for the said Earl, who never makes any scruple to give Judgment against a Protestant; which all English and Protestants have reason to take notice of.

Witness my hand and seal this 17th day of June 1681.
John N I S.

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